

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please amend claims 29 and 42, as follows:

Claims 1-28 (Canceled).

29. (Currently Amended) A tyre for a vehicle wheel, comprising:

a carcass structure;

at least one annular reinforcing structure;

a tread band; and

a pair of sidewalls;

wherein the carcass structure comprises:

at least one carcass ply;

wherein one of the at least one carcass plies comprises:

a plurality of elongated elements comprising a plurality of strip-like elements having terminal parts, the plurality of strip-like elements being physically distinct from one another;

wherein the elongated elements are disposed in a substantially U-shaped conformation around a cross-section profile of the tyre,

wherein each elongated element comprises:

two side portions at mutually-spaced-apart positions in an axial direction; and

a crown portion that extends at a radially external position between the side portions;

wherein the at least one annular reinforcing structure is associated with the carcass structure at the side portions of the elongated elements,

wherein the at least one annular reinforcing structure comprises:

a first bead core; and

a second bead core,

wherein the first bead core is disposed axially internal to the at least one carcass ply,

wherein the second bead core is disposed axially external to the at least one carcass ply, and

wherein the first bead core and the second bead core are disposed at a same radial position of the tyre;

wherein a fraction of the elongated elements of the carcass ply is turned up around one of the first bead core and the second bead core, the fraction being less than all of the elongated elements,

wherein the tread band is disposed radially external to the carcass structure, and

wherein the sidewalls are disposed at axially opposite positions on the carcass structure.

Claim 30 (Canceled).

31. (Previously Presented) The tyre of claim 29, wherein the fraction of the elongated elements is turned up around the first bead core.

32. (Previously Presented) The tyre of claim 29, wherein the fraction of the elongated elements is turned up around the second bead core.

33. (Previously Presented) The tyre of claim 29, wherein the fraction of the elongated elements is turned up around the second bead core, and a remainder of the elongated elements is turned up around the first bead core.

34. (Previously Presented) The tyre of claim 29, wherein a carcass ply stretch interposed between the first and second bead cores has a cross-section profile with a length greater than or equal to 15 mm and less than or equal to 70 mm.

35. (Previously Presented) The tyre of claim 29, wherein the at least one annular reinforcing structure further comprises:

a third bead core disposed axially external to the second bead core.

36. (Previously Presented) The tyre of claim 29, wherein the fraction of the elongated elements is less than or equal to about 50% of an overall number of the elongated elements.

37. (Previously Presented) The tyre of claim 29, wherein ends of the turned-up elongated elements lie in different planes.

38. (Previously Presented) The tyre of claim 29, wherein the tyre further comprises:

at least one reinforcing edge;

wherein the at least one reinforcing edge is axially external, radially external, or axially and radially external to a respective annular reinforcing structure.

Claim 39 (Canceled).

40. (Previously Presented) The tyre of claim 29, wherein the strip elements comprise at least two lengths different from each other.

41. (Previously Presented) The tyre of claim 29, wherein the strip elements comprise a same length.

42. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a tyre for a vehicle wheel, comprising:

preparing a plurality of elongated elements comprising a plurality of strip-like elements having terminal parts, the plurality of strip-like elements being physically distinct from one another, wherein during preparing the plurality of elongated elements, the strip elements are submitted to necking-down, such that a cross-sectional area of the strip elements is locally reduced;

disposing each elongated element on a toroidal support to form a carcass ply of a carcass structure;

applying a first bead core and a second bead core at a region close to side portions of the elongated elements; and

turning up ends of a fraction of the elongated elements around one of the first bead core and the second bead core,

wherein the first bead core is disposed axially internal to the carcass ply,
wherein the second bead core is disposed axially external to the carcass ply, and
wherein the first bead core and the second bead core are disposed at a same radial position of the tyre;

wherein the tyre comprises:

the carcass structure;

at least one annular reinforcing structure;

a tread band; and

a pair of sidewalls;

wherein the carcass structure comprises:

[[a]] the carcass ply;

wherein the elongated elements are coated with at least one layer of elastomer material,

wherein the elongated elements are disposed in a substantially U-shaped conformation around a cross-section profile of the toroidal support,

wherein each elongated element comprises:

two side portions at mutually-spaced-apart positions in an axial direction;

and

a crown portion that extends at a radially external position between the side portions;

wherein the at least one annular reinforcing structure comprises:

the first bead core and the second bead core;

wherein the turned up ends of the fraction of the elongated elements, prior to being turned up, comprise ends at a radially more internal position than the first bead core and the second bead core, the fraction being less than all of the elongated elements,

wherein the tread band is disposed radially external to the carcass structure, and

wherein the sidewalls are disposed at axially opposite positions on the carcass structure.

Claim 43 (Canceled).

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein turning up the ends of the fraction of the elongated elements is carried out subsequent to disposing a layer of reinforced polymeric material axially external to the second bead core.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the ends of the fraction of the elongated elements are turned up around the first bead core.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the ends of the fraction of the elongated elements are turned up around the second bead core.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the ends of the fraction of the elongated elements are turned up around the second bead core, and a remainder of the elongated elements is turned up around the first bead core.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein turning up the ends of the fraction of the elongated elements is carried out in at least two steps,

wherein two of the steps are separated by disposing a filler in an axially external position to an axially external edge of the second bead core, and

wherein the ends of the elongated elements turned-up during a second step lie in offset planes relative to the ends of the elongated elements turned up during a first step.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein turning up the ends of the fraction of the elongated elements is followed by disposing a third bead core at an axially external position to the second bead core.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein during preparing the plurality of elongated elements, a continuous ribbon element is cut into strip elements, and

wherein the elongated elements comprise the strip elements.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein the strip elements comprise at least two lengths different from each other.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein the strip elements comprise a same length.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein disposing each elongated element on the toroidal support is carried out by laying strip elements of different length symmetrically with each other relative to an equatorial plane of the toroidal support.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein disposing each elongated element on the toroidal support is carried out by laying strip elements of a same length asymmetrically relative to an equatorial plane of the toroidal support.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54, wherein disposing each elongated element on the toroidal support is carried out by further laying at least one strip element of shorter length symmetrically relative to the equatorial plane of the toroidal support.

Claim 56 (Canceled).

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein at least one of the first bead core and the second bead core is obtained by winding a plurality of coils of

metal wire disposed in radial superposition and axial side-by-side relationship with each other.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, further comprising:
disposing at least one reinforcing edge axially external, radially external, or
axially and radially external to a respective annular reinforcing structure.